



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alsbaugh, Vice-Chair
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

ABSENT: James Duchene, Commissioner

STAFF: Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
Lindsay Adarme, Recreation Coordinator
Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager
Don Davis, Parks and Recreation Manager
Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Manager
Lindsay Adarme, McDowell Mountain Ranch
Seth Dusek, McDowell Mountain Ranch
Rhonda Thomas, Municipal Services
Reid Pryor

GUESTS: Daniel Morgan, Youth Council Advisor
Nick Canivez, Youth Council Historian
Sophia Kim, Youth Council Project Manager
Alex DiBenedetto, Youth Council President
Armando Santana, Optima Networks
Mark Williams, Clear Wire
Mike Elias, Clear Wire
Elizabeth Ray, Arizona State University student
Mike Rabe, Arizona Fish and Game Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Frost called for a moment of silence.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Study Session of December 2, 2009.

COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2009 STUDY SESSION. VICE CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

- Regular Meeting of December 2, 2009.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2009 REGULAR MEETING. VICE CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As provided for in the Parks and Recreation Commission By-Laws, the Commission shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair at the first regularly scheduled meeting each calendar year. The new officers will take office immediately and serve for a term of one year.

COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI NOMINATED JEANNE ALSPAUGH TO BE CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR 2010. COMMISSIONER KOCZKA SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

COMMISSIONER FROST NOMINATED JAMES DUCHENE TO BE VICE CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR 2010. COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

6. SCOTTSDALE MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Daniel Morgan, Youth Council Advisor; Nick Canivez, Youth Council Historian; Sophia Kim, Youth Council Project Manager; and Alex DiBenedetto, Youth Council President will provide an overview of the Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council.

Mr. Canivez said the Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council has been in existence since 1987, and is now over 40 strong. The Council has coordinated youth town hall meetings and made recommendations on youth issues. In 1999, the Council helped coordinate a music festival to raise funds for the skate park. This year, the Council packed 450 holiday meal bags, and hosted a teen safety series at the Library. Ms. Kim said the mission of the Youth Council is to educate, motivate and empower Scottsdale youth with experience in leadership and group decision-making, knowledge of local government, and foster the youth voice. Sophomores, juniors and seniors at any school in Scottsdale are welcome to apply.

Mr. DiBenedetto said the application process begins in late spring for the following school year. Current SMYC members as well as the Youth and Family Services Staff review applicants. The SMYC President provides guidance and direction to the Council, and serves as the liaison between the Council and Staff. The Vice President is the primary contact for project teams, and fills in for the President as needed. The Secretary keeps minutes and develops meeting agendas. The Historian organizes material related to Council events and projects. The Project Manager researches and develops new ideas for projects. The Attendance Chair keeps track of absences and tardiness.

Ms. Kim reported SMYC represents the City at the Parada del Sol, and will greet attendees at the Mayor's State of the City address. In spring, the group will participate in a mock council to address youth issues while following City Council protocol. Mr. Canivez described how he became involved with the group, and how it has benefited him. He said the Youth Council is trying to get funding for a team building and leadership retreat, and is laying the groundwork for a teen health and wellness festival.

Commissioner Frost volunteered his assistance in the team-building exercise. Commissioner Schlegelmilch inquired about the group's current funding. Mr. Morgan responded that it was funded by a donation that has since been expended. Currently there is no budget, but fundraising activities and grants are being considered. In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Koczka, Mr. Morgan said the effort started as a joint project between the Mayor, community youth and their families.

7. PROPOSAL FOR CLEAR WIRELESS LLC FOR INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF WIRELESS FACILITIES AT SEVEN SCOTTSDALE PARKS, INCLUDING ANTENNAE ON THE BALL FIELD LIGHTS AND SHELTERS FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Rhonda Thomas, City of Scottsdale Real Estate Management Specialist; Armando Santana, Site Acquisitions Specialist with Optima Networks representing Clear Wire; Mark Williams, Construction Manager, Clear Wire; Mike Elias, Contractor Zoning Specialist representing Clear Wire, will present proposal for Clear Wireless LLC to install and operate facilities at seven (7)

City parks (Agua Linda, Aztec, Chaparral, Horizon, Indian School, Scottsdale Ranch and Thunderbird).

Ms. Thomas outlined proposed wireless facilities at seven Scottsdale park sites. In August of 2009, Clear Wire reviewed 45 wireless communication facilities within Scottsdale for wireless internet. The sites include locations in Aztec, Chaparral, Horizon, Indian School, Thunderbird, Scottsdale Ranch, and Aqua Linda Parks. The City is currently preparing the license agreements that will control how Clear Wire is allowed to use the sites. The lease language will allow Clear Wire to make future modifications to its antennas with City permission, and subject to Design Review approval.

Clear Wire was required to engage in a public outreach effort. Their plan is to replace existing ball field light poles with poles that will provide mounting for three antennas and up to two microwave dishes. The sites will include small enclosures for ground equipment that will match existing buildings. Staff can administratively approve six of the seven sites, while the facility at Aqua Linda Park will require a use permit through the Planning Commission and City Council. Work will be coordinated through Jodie Pierce, Landscape Contracts Coordinator, and Chris Mitchell, Water Operations Manager. Commissioner Faramelli queried the purpose of this construction effort. Mr. Santana responded that WiMAX is a new wireless broadband technology that is not currently offered in the Valley. Mr. Santana presented photographs of each park site as they currently appear, and compared them to post-construction renderings.

Commissioner Koczka noted that in recent years, the Commission has received requests from a number of different companies to build facilities in parks for a number of different technologies. He expressed concern about the trend continuing, especially if competitors apply for their own set of wireless facilities. Commissioner King queried when bid requirements would take effect. Ms. Cameron responded that the City's process requires a bidding process whenever there are more competitors than poles available. Commissioner King inquired about the lease payments. Ms. Thomas said each site would bring in \$1,500 per month, with built-in escalators. Commissioner King suggested that all revenue from wireless leases go into a fund for deferred maintenance for park sites. Commissioner Frost said such a proposal would have to be part of the five-year capital improvement plan, because otherwise the original budgeted funds would just be subtracted, resulting in no gain.

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Faramelli, Mr. Santana explained that WiMAX would enable residents to receive wireless internet anywhere in the coverage area, and provides them with another internet service option. Commissioner Frost inquired whether another wireless broadband company would be able to use the existing stations. Mr. Santana responded that they would have to purchase and install their own.

Commissioner Koczka inquired about health concerns posed by the technology. Mr. Elias said studies indicate that no damage is caused as long as the FCC guidelines are followed. The City of Scottsdale requires an electromagnetic emissions report for every site built. Similar sites are being installed throughout the Valley. Emissions near an equipment enclosure are similar in measurement to those emitted by baby monitors. In response to further inquiries from Commissioner Koczka, Mr. Williams said Scottsdale is currently behind some other cities, because the approval process is more stringent here. The service has been rolled out in 25 cities nationwide, and the goal is to introduce it everywhere eventually.

COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW CLEAR WIRE TO INSTALL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES, INCLUDING ANTENNAE, ON THE BALL FIELD LIGHTS AND SHELTERS FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT OF AQUA LINDA, AZTEC, CHAPARRAL, HORIZON, INDIAN SCHOOL, SCOTTSDALE RANCH, AND THUNDERBIRD PARKS. COMMISSIONER FROST SECONDED.

Commissioner Frost inquired whether Staff concurred with the proposal. Ms. Cameron responded that Staff has reviewed all the locations and designs. Designs were tailored to conform to mowing and irrigation challenges presented by each site, and Clear Wire was agreeable to the modifications requested. Commissioner Koczka inquired about considerations made to conform facility aesthetics to the surrounding environment. Mr. Santana responded that the enclosures were designed to blend in with surrounding structures. Commissioner Faramelli amended his motion to address this point.

COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW CLEAR WIRE TO INSTALL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES, INCLUDING ANTENNAE, ON THE BALL FIELD LIGHTS AND SHELTERS FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT OF AQUA LINDA, AZTEC, CHAPARRAL, HORIZON, INDIAN SCHOOL, SCOTTSDALE RANCH, AND THUNDERBIRD PARKS. AS PART OF THE PROCESS, THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE AESTHETICS OF THE EQUIPMENT BUILDINGS. COMMISSIONER FROST SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ONE (1), WITH COMMISSIONER KOCZKA DISSENTING. COMMISSIONER DUCHENE WAS ABSENT.

8. CANADA GEESE IN THE INDIAN BEND WASH PARKS

Elizabeth Ray, Masters Student at Arizona State University, and Mike Rabe, Arizona Fish and Game Department, will provide update and results to date of the two-year project being conducted studying the population dynamics of Canada Geese in the Indian Bend Wash parks. The purpose of the project is to provide Scottsdale Parks and Recreation with information they could use to manage the Canada Geese population within the parks in the event they decide to do so at the end of the study project.

Mr. Rabe presented the first-year results of a two-year Canada Geese study being conducted in parks along Indian Bend Wash. The study is a partnership between the City of Scottsdale, the Arizona Fish and Game Department, and ASU. The geese population has been growing in recent years, and one of the goals is to determine why. Geese lose their flight feathers in late June, early July. They were crossing Hayden Road regularly because green grass was available on one side, and water on the other. Urban parks are attractive because they serve as a refuge from predators, people feed geese, and the presence of resident geese encourage migratory birds to stop. People also dump unwanted birds in parks. Canada Geese can become overabundant and cause problems. Grass can suffer from overgrazing. Feces reduce the usability of parks. There is some threat of disease transmission, and aggressive behavior towards humans.

Ms. Ray said 201 geese have been banded, including 127 adults and 74 goslings. Official weekly surveys indicate that numbers gradually increase throughout the fall, with

the largest increase in December. In 2009, they departed in mid-February. During daylight hours, many migratory birds disperse throughout the area to feed on fields. In 2009, there was a peak migrant population of 1,000 geese. The study will continue throughout the year to monitor general trends, gather more biological data, and conduct another round of bandings. The social outcomes of the study are an increased public awareness of urban geese, and the problems associated with over abundance.

Commissioner Frost noted that the parks were built for people, and asked when the geese would be removed. Ms. Ray responded that the purpose of her study is to gather information, which the City could then use to make management decisions. Commissioners Schlegelmilch and Koczka concurred that overabundant populations cause problems for park visitors. Commissioner King inquired whether significant opposition exists to geese management. Mr. Rabe responded that a small but vocal minority view parks as wildlife sanctuaries. The key is managing the resident population, as they impact the number of migrants that arrive. Parks can also be made less attractive to geese. Scottsdale should address the problem before it becomes too big to handle. Commissioner Schlegelmilch noted that Federal laws regarding wetlands might affect what the City can do in terms of management.

9. MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN RANCH FITNESS CENTER AND SKATE PARK UPDATE

Lindsay Adarme, McDowell Mountain Ranch (MMR) Recreation Coordinator, and Seth Dusek, MMR Pool Manager, will provide update on McDowell Mountain Ranch Fitness Center and Skate Park.

Ms. Adarme reported that the fitness center is currently open six days a week, with peak hours before and after work. Numbers are increasing as more people become aware that the facility exists. Mr. Dusek said MMR partners with Scottsdale Healthcare to offer a program in functional strength training for everyday movement. It is designed primarily for seniors who are looking to improve their quality of life and fitness regime. Mr. Dusek said the skate park is open every day, with peak hours between 4 and 7 p.m. Admission is free, and the park is open to all ages and skill levels. Attendance has increased 7% from 2008.

Commissioner Koczka inquired whether fitness center users prefer membership cards or individual payments. Ms. Adarme said most regular users have membership cards, and added that most are Scottsdale residents. Non-residents pay a higher fee. Chair Frost inquired about Sunday closures. Ms. Adarme responded that during the budget process, Staff recognized that Sunday has the lowest attendance.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORT

The Commissioners will give updates on events and activities they have attended since the last Commission meeting.

Commissioner Faramelli said he attended the Youth Sports Task Force meeting. He requested an agenda item to discuss fees for field allocations. Commissioner Koczka said the Aquatics Task Force is meeting again soon. The Commission may have to

revisit the time span of the agreement made with the aquatics clubs. Commissioner Koczka said the Stadium staff has been working hard to prepare for the arrival of the Giants. He proposed a discussion on encouraging youth to use empty ball fields in a non-organized way. Chair Alspaugh commended the Event Planning staff on their efforts to assist a walk event at El Dorado Park.

11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, will update the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions. This includes, but is not limited to, updates on programming, special events, calendars, and upcoming meetings.

Ms. Cameron noted that all pools are participating in the Amazing Swim, with the goal of reaching 189 miles. Fit City kicks off on January 23. An athlete and a coach from Adapted Recreation Services have been invited to represent Scottsdale in the national Special Olympic Games in Nebraska. Winter adult sports leagues have begun at Chaparral Park with over 150 teams playing softball, 40 playing kickball, and 12 teams in the four on four league. The Civic Center Mall staff is revitalizing the sod after 116 events were held this season. Cumulative attendance for the events was almost 160,000 people. Almost \$4,000 was saved by not contracting out sod removal. The Mall staff is now using a solar-powered maintenance cart, which saves 260 gallons of fuel per year.

Ms. Cameron reported that Scottsdale's emergency crew is prepared to handle any incidents that arise from the incoming storm. The groundbreaking for the new model railroad exhibit at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park is scheduled for February 3. In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Frost, Ms. Cameron said adult sports has been allocated two nights a week at Grayhawk Park, and youth sports has been three.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Charlene Lawhead asked whether the residents would have further opportunities to voice their opinions on the Clear Wire proposal. Ms. Cameron responded that Clear Wire is required to provide anyone living within 750 feet of a facility an opportunity to give feedback. The proposal must still go through design review, rezoning, and final approval by City Council, providing multiple opportunities for citizens to raise issues. Ms. Lawhead said people go to the parks for recreation, and should not have to worry about emissions. The City should not overlook important quality of life issues when pursuing commercial endeavors.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

Meets established criteria,
Janice M. Cameron
Director, Parks and Recreation